

SPORTS

SUCCESS FOR MINSK DYNAMO



Soviet football champions Minsk Dynamo.

Minsk Dynamo, who showed interesting attacking football, have become national champions for the first time. Not for nothing they scored the most goals (63) this season. Until the present success their best achievement

was third place in 1954 and 1963. Many-time champions Kiev Dynamo came only a point behind them. Moscow Spartak, who came third, finished level with Tbilisi Dynamo but were more successful in their "personal" bouts.

Andrei Yakubik (Tashkent Pakhtakor) is the championship's top scorer at 23 goals.

Kuban and Kalat will leave the top division to be replaced by Vilnius Zalgiris and Kishinev Nistru.

Alexander Zaitsev forecasts a most exciting struggle

Only a few days are left till the international "Moskovskiy Novosti" (Moscow News) figure-skating tournament opens on December 2 at the Palace of Sports in the Lenin Central Stadium in Moscow.

Who of the leading Soviet figure skaters are preparing to attend the contest?

Answering this question from the editorial office is Alexander ZAITSEV, twice Olympic champion, deputy head of the Department of Winter Sports of the USSR Sports Committee.

The international competition schedule of Soviet figure skaters was markedly expanded in this pre-Olympic season, and after a series of performances most of them will get together for the first time to compete in a representative tournament alongside foreign visitors. And we will see who is worthy of making a national team for the European and world championships.

The first event will be the pairs' short programme. Veronika Porshina and Mariat Ashurov, who have international experience, are determined to fight for the "Crystal Skate" and the top awards of the championships. I think that Larisa Seleznyova and Oleg Makarov, winners of the 1981 MN competition, will want to repeat their success, and the pairs of Valera Valova-Oleg Vasilyev and Inna Volynskaya—Valery Spiridonov are promising.

In the dances Natalya Besmyanova and Andriy Butko, who won the 1981 MN Prize and silver medals at last year's world and European championships, have taken the lead in the national team. Also getting ready to compete are Olga Volokhina and Alexander Svinin, who will try to provide them a strong competition. World junior champions Yelena Batanova-Alexei Soloviyov and Marina Klimova-Sergei Ponomarev have also raised their standards.

Altogether three skaters are aspiring to the role of leader in the men's singles: Alexander Fadeyev, winner of last year's MN tournament Vladimir Kotin, and European ex-champion Igor Bobrin.

Getting ready to attend the women's singles are able Anna Kondrashova, Anna Antonova and Marina Sarova.

I have named not all skaters aspiring to places in the first team of the country. We are looking forward to a most exciting struggle for the "Crystal Skate".

CAC MAKE THE TOP SIX

The basketball Central Army Club won their return European Winners Cup game vs Finland's Turun, 131-92 at Turku, having also won the first game 89-71. CAC have now joined five more top European clubs in the race for the prized trophy.

RECORD OF A CUBAN WEIGHTLIFTER

A new world record was set in Copenhagen at an international meet by the 24-year-old Moscow Olympic champion Cuban Daniel NUNEZ (under 60 kg), who snatched 137.5 kg. He also set the previous mark of 136 kg, this past August in Havana.



Togliatti acrobats in the midst of their performance which won them the group event at the international tournament in memory of Soviet Pilot-Cosmonaut Vladimir Volkov. Photo by Sergei Proskov

Alma-Ata Dynamo, who have now qualified for the European Winners Cup final, attack the goal of their stiffest opponents, Pro Recco, from Italy. Photo by Yuri Tufov

STEVENSON BEATS BIGGS

Cuba's visiting boxing squad overpowered a US team, 8-4, in a friendly match at Reno, Nevada. The focus of the match was the bout between three Olympic champion Cuban heavyweights Teofilo Stevenson and world

champion Biggs, of the USA, who is only 21. Despite being ten years his elder, the Cuban dominated throughout, laying Biggs low on two occasions and eventually knocking him out in the second round.

ASIAD-82: flags of 33 countries flying

The flame lit in the gigantic bowl of the new Jawaharlal Nehru stadium and the scale model of the dancing Appu baby elephant, the official mascot of the 9th Asian Games, suspended over it from a balloon are currently the inevitable sights of the Indian capital.

All have noted the wonderful holiday of the opening of the Games, the unusual colour and precision of the three-hour ceremony, the friendly atmosphere at the biggest sports forum on the Asian continent.

The Olympic banner with five intertwined rings was raised at the stadium alongside the flags of the 33 participating nations. Talking to numerous newsmen at a press conference in Delhi,

IOC President Juan Antonio Samaranch said: I congratulate the organizers on the splendid preparation of the Asian continent Games, on the successful staging of the magnificent holiday of the opening. We rejoice at the growing links of sportmen of Asian nations, their active part in the Olympic movement and solidarity with the ideas of Olympism.

The Asian Games in the Indian capital have drawn the biggest number of participants in the history of this competition — 33 countries—and this is a peculiar first record of the ASIAD-82.

The first gold medal of the Asian Games was won by Chinese heavyweight Cai Juncheng in the under 52 kg division. He snatched 107.5 kg, a new Asian Games record.

BORG MAKES A COMEBACK

One very conspicuous absentee from this summer's international tennis circuit was celebrated Swede Björn Borg, 28, ranked by many experts as the greatest player of all time. There were several reasons for his staying away, the main one being that Borg was exhausted by an endless many-year tournament race involving rigorous pro contracts.

Recently the five-time Wimbledon winner and five-time

winner of the French Open re-entered the race competing in a Sydney tournament against such formidable opposition like John McEnroe and Vilas Guariatis (both of the USA), and Czechoslovakia's Ivan Lendl.

Borg proved he was still super by beating McEnroe 3-6, 6-4, 7-5, 6-3 in the final. He told newsmen thereafter he was priming to contest the world No. 1 ranking next year.

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"MN Information" comes out on Tuesdays and Saturdays and offers in brief the latest information on events in the USSR and in the world reported by TASS and foreign news agencies. Nothing short of the material carried in the editions of both

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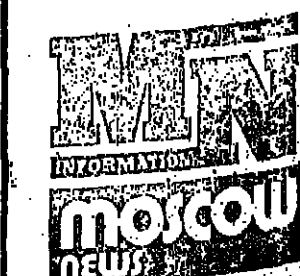
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Session of the USSR Supreme Soviet

The 7th Session of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR (10th convocation) was held on November 23-24 at the Grand Kremlin Palace, in Moscow.

The session discussed a USSR Council of Ministers' report on the progress of the State Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the USSR for 1982, approved a report on the implementation of the State Budget of the USSR for 1981 and adopted the Law on the State Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the USSR for 1983 and the State Budget of the USSR for 1983 (see Viewpoint on page 3). The session also adopted the Law on the State Borders of the USSR.

It was ruled:
To elect General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Yuri Andropov Member of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet;
To appoint Member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee Gaidar Aliyev First Vice-Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers;

To elect Tengis Monieshashvili Secretary of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet (in connection with the demise of Secretary of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Mikhail Georgadze).

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FRIENDS OF THE SOVIET UNION MEET IN MOSCOW

For three days recently Moscow was the venue for an international meeting between representatives of foreign societies for friendship and cultural relations with the USSR and the Soviet public. The meeting which was attended by nearly 90 nations, some international organizations, and around 800 Soviet public figures, was held to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the USSR.

In his address to the gathering Boris Ponomarev, Alternate Member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, said that the formation of the Soviet multinational state signified the creation, for the first time in history, of an alliance of nations in which people lived and worked on the basis of full equality, socialist internationalism, friendship and fraternal mutual assistance.

We, Soviet people, he continued, are glad to know that our friends abroad join us in celebrating the 60th anniversary of the USSR. Our people always reciprocate strong and lasting friendship; loyal to the internationalist behests of the great Lenin, they will continue to steadfastly pursue the Leninist course towards the fraternal cooperation of all peoples in the cause of peace and social progress.



In the photos (from left to right): Zinaida Kruglova chats with members of the Japanese delegation. Soviet delegation member N. Gorodovikov. British writer J. Aldridge addresses the meeting. Metropolitan Yevgeny sits with the president. Photos by Boris Kautman

Zinaida Kruglova, President of the Presidium of the Union of Soviet Friendship Societies, delivered the following report at the meeting: "The formation of the USSR and its role in furthering foreign public movements for friendship between nations, for universal peace and disarmament, and against the nuclear threat".

The creation of the world's first multinational state of workers and peasants sets an example for a fair solution to the nationalities question. The following delegates stressed: René Rodriguez Cruz, Member of the Central Committee of the Com-

munist Party of Cuba and President of the Cuban Institute of Friendship Among Peoples; Sakkar Abu Nazzar, Member of the Executive Committee of the Palestinian-Soviet Friendship Society; Ts. Dregolchev, Member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party and Honorary Chairman of the Nationwide Committee of Bulgarian-Soviet Friendship; writer J. Aldridge, Member of the Executive Committee of the Society for Cultural Relations with the USSR (Britain); G. Weber, Vice-President of the Federation of the

(Continued on page 2)



Tokyo's strenuous efforts to intensify military preparations and build up its militaristic alliance with the United States are causing profound concern among the country's democratic public. One indication of this are the nationwide mass rallies and demonstrations currently being held in Japan.

In the photo: a demonstration in Tokyo sponsored by the Anti-Japan Council for the Prohibition of Atomic and Hydrogen Weapons.

Photo Japan Press-TASS

FACTS AND EVENTS

• In the wake of the Israeli aggression, nearly 175 thousand Palestinian Arabs in Lebanon are in need of help from the United Nations. This is stated in a report published by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East.

• More than 670 punitive soldiers have been wounded and killed in the course of the offensive launched on October 19 by the Salvadoran rebels. Large numbers of soldiers and officers have been captured. 17 have been handed over to the international Red Cross and Ramiro Vasquez, member of the National Liberation Front leadership, in an interview to the "Neue Deutsche" newspaper.

The Days of the Kazakh SSR recently were celebrated at the jubilee "In a Single Family" show at the USSR Exhibition of Economic Achievements.

Kazakhstan covers a vast area spreading from the lower Volga in the west to the Altai Mountains in the east, from the West Siberian Plain in the north to the Tien Shan ridges in the south. It occupies 2.7 million square kilometres which accounts for one-eighth of the Soviet Union. This Union republic is the second largest in size (after the Russian Federation) and with its 15 million people the fourth largest in population (after the Russian Federation, the Ukraine and Uzbekistan).

Kazakhstan is now one of the country's main breadbaskets. The cultivation of the virgin lands which started in 1954 turned the country's lifeless but promising eastern steppes into a land of developed agriculture providing the momentum for the development of the whole of the republic's economy. During the years of the tenth five-year plan period alone (1973-80), the Kazakhstani virgin lands' on four occasions gave the country more than 10 million tonnes of grain.

At the same time, Kazakhstan has a diversified industrial structure. The metal industries, coal and oil production, the chemical and power generating industries and engineering are now leading branches of the economy. The republic holds second place in the country in the production of oil and occupies third place in the output of electric power and in the production of steel cast iron. Steel and rolled steel. The lead and zinc produced at Ust-Kamenogorsk, one of the largest and most picturesque at the jubilee show. Visitors to the exhibition were able to meet members of the Kazakhstani delegation which had arrived specially for the Days of the Kazakh SSR. Released and artist's sketches showed Kazakhstani artists the original art of the Kazakh.

gorak and the cathode copper of the Balkhash mining and smelting complex have been registered as elements at the London non-ferrous metals exchange.

The successes achieved by Kazakhstan in its industry, agriculture, science and culture could be seen at the republic's



Honoured artists of the Kazakh republic Larisa Mashkayeva and Firuz Zheleznikov, at the USSR Exhibition of Economic Achievements

Photo by Gennady Dubelkovsky

exhibition, one of the largest and most picturesque at the jubilee show. Visitors to the exhibition were able to meet members of the Kazakhstani delegation which had arrived specially for the Days of the Kazakh SSR. Released and artist's sketches showed Kazakhstani artists the original art of the Kazakh.

COMMISSION
INVESTIGATES ZIONIST CRIMES

Athens. For two days, the Greek hosted the meetings of the International Commission of Inquiry into Israeli Crimes Against the Lebanese and Palestinian Peoples.

The conference was attended by more than 30 delegations from all over the world, including one from the Soviet Union. It was addressed by doctors, nurses, and lawyers who had visited Lebanon both during the hostilities and after they had been formally ter-

minated. The films, photographs and transparencies shown at the conference bore vivid illustration to the tragedy which hit the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples and to atrocities committed by the Israeli invaders. The delegates spoke firmly in favour of an independent Palestinian state and called on all the peace-loving forces of the world to step up their struggle for peace, against the aggressive actions of imperialism.

WILL THE MURDERERS
BE BROUGHT TO JUSTICE?

Beirut. The examination of witnesses has ended at the special Israeli inquiry into the circumstances surrounding the mass murders at the Palestinian refugee camps of Sabra and Chatila, in West Beirut. Despite attempts by the Israeli rulers to evade responsibility for the crime, the commission admitted that it lies with the Israeli Zionist leadership.

There is evidence, some of it at the disposal of the commission, which indicates that in their capacity as professional terrorists Begin, Sharon and Shamir carried out a premeditated operation in West Beirut to intimidate the Palestinians, such an operation being completely in keeping with the Zionist anti-Arab doctrine.

FRIENDS OF THE SOVIET UNION
MEET IN MOSCOW

(Continued from page 1)

FRG-USSR Society; Domingos Coelho da Cruz, Chairman of the Angolan League of Friendship and Solidarity with Foreign Peoples; and members of public organizations from other countries.

In a document approved by the meeting and addressed to societies, institutions and associations of friendship and cultural relations with the Soviet Union and to the Soviet Union's

friends abroad in general, it was stressed that the entire world recognizes the USSR as close-knit and unshakable alliance of equal republics. The delegates urged all people of goodwill to intensify the drive for peace and disarmament and prevent nuclear disaster.

There were also get-togethers between foreign delegates and members of the Soviet public, as well as meetings and friendship soirees held at offices and plants in Moscow.



Drawing by G. Chegoduyev

PROVOCATION AT THE UN

New York. In violation of the elementary rules of international law and the Charter of the United Nations Organization, the UN General Assembly has become involved in the consideration of the so-called Afghanisthan question. This obviously barren and harmful discussion was inspired by circles which would like to preserve tension in South-West Asia for the sake of their imperialist and hegemonistic goals.

The United States was the initiator of this provocative act which is regarded in UN circles as overt interference in the internal affairs of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, a sovereign state and member of the UN. J. Kirkpatrick, US permanent representative at the UN, attempted to set the pattern of

the ensuing discussion in her speech by embarking on a number of malicious attacks against the Soviet Union and the government of Afghanistan.

M. Farid Zairi, the DRA's permanent representative at the UN, gave a firm rebuttal to the dirty insinuations broadcast by the head of the American delegation. The Afghan people, he said, have made an independent choice as to the road they will follow and will not allow anybody to dictate to them which political and social system they should choose or how they should carry on their affairs. The Afghanisthan campaign, unleashed by imperialist circles, aims at camouflaging these circles' claims with regard to South-West Asia, the Middle East, the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean.

QUOTATION OF THE DAY

"Our Eastern trade has good prospects. In the current conditions characterized by an unstable situation in the world economy and by mounting international tension, West German trade with the CMEA nations continues on the upgrade." (Editor-in-Chief of the "Ost-West Kommern" magazine, West Germany)

NEW PREMIER
FOR JAPAN

Tokyo. Yasuhiro Nakasone has become the new Chairman of the ruling Liberal-Democratic Party (LDP). His appointment was approved by an extraordinary LDP congress in the month-long preliminary election held through the mail, he received nearly 70 per cent of his party's votes which has a membership of about one million. This outright victory caused his rivals to withdraw from the campaign. Nakasone's election has ensured by union with the largest party factions led by the present Prime Minister Suzuki and former Premier Tanaka.

At an extraordinary session of Parliament, in which the LDP has a majority in both chambers, Nakasone has been elected Prime Minister.

FACTS
AND EVENTS

© In the First Committee of the UN General Assembly, 11 countries have voted in favour of the Soviet-proposed draft resolution, "On an immediate cessation and prohibition of nuclear weapons tests". Only the United States, Britain, France and China voted against.

© In Israel, it has been officially announced that the national airline El Al has gone into liquidation. This decision has been taken after a deadlock in negotiations between management and staff who went on strike last September demanding better working conditions.

SERIOUS DIFFERENCES
PARALYZE EEC

Brussels. At a two-day meeting here between EEC foreign ministers serious differences have emerged in the pattern of views on a number of problems and this has prevented specific decisions from being taken on urgent matters such as the reform of the EEC budget, and the size of the British contribution. Also adjourned is the decision on the terms for Portugal's and Spain's entry into the EEC as well as the solution to some other problems.

The Brussels meeting has revealed different reactions among EEC members to the attempt by Washington to impose further restrictions on its partners in trade with the socialist countries in exchange for the lifting of sanctions against the suppliers of equipment for the Siberian gas pipeline. Some ministers expressed concern over the negative effect this policy is having on East-West relations. Those in present at the meeting and in particular, the French Minister for External Relations, Claude Cheysson, emphasized the consistency and continuity in Soviet foreign policy.

APPEAL TO STEP UP
ANTI-IMPERIALIST
STRUGGLE

Georgetown. Prime Minister of the People's Revolutionary Government in Grenada, Maurice Bishop, appealed to the people of Grenada and to the peoples of the Caribbean to support their efforts in the struggle to oppose US imperialism and to achieve complete independence for and economic independence for the countries in the region. Addressing a rally in Grenada's capital, St. George's, he declared that it was a logical task for the peoples of the Caribbean to oppose imperialism and colonialism, to defend the progressive changes in the region, and to have the Caribbean taken a step of progress.

FACTS
AND EVENTS

© According to "The Daily Telegraph", the Tory cabinet has decided to increase by 11 million pounds its appropriation for the Northern Ireland budget for dealing with "maintenance of law and order". According to the paper it is planned to spend the allocated money on widening the role of police operations in that part of the United Kingdom.

© The Zambian government has suspended issuing licences to foreign tourists. "The Times" of London writes "The Times" of London writes "It is believed that the ban is to be imposed on tourists for good because of the sharp decline in wildlife due to the excessive greed of hunters."

RENSBURG BECOMES

A NUCLEAR-FREE TOWN

Bonn. Rensburg is the first town in the land of Schleswig-Holstein, in West Germany, to become free of nuclear weapons. At a meeting of the Rensburg town council a ban was decided on the transportation and storage of nuclear, as well as chemical and germ weapons, after the town itself or in its vicinity.

This decision, which was then following the example of any other towns in West Germany and abroad, is a symbolic step designed to show the people of Rensburg do not intend to take any further part in the arms race, stressed a Social-Democratic party member of the town council in her speech.

SOUTH AFRICA
STEPS UP ITS ARMS EXPORTS

London. P. Marais, President of the South African Government Military and Industrial Amcor Corporation, has said that his corporation intends to increase its annual exports of weapons by 150 million rands, according to "The Guardian" newspaper. The Cabinet of Ministers and the Council for State Security of South Africa, today adopted a decision providing for expanded sales of weapons abroad, including the 155 mm self-propelled how-



itzer, jet fighters, and air-to-air missiles. "The Guardian" says that the South African military and industrial complex has spent 630 million rands on expanding production capacities over the past five years. Whereas ten years ago South Africa produced only 30 per cent of its ammunition and military equipment, today the corporation's industries provide for 90 per cent of all the needs of the South African army.

South Africa is stepping up its preparations for a large-scale invasion deep inside Angola. 5.5 thousand racist soldiers are imposing arbitrary rule in the southern provinces of the latter country. They are stationed there to facilitate the advance of the South African forces in the first days of the invasion.

In the photo: South African soldiers in southern Angola.

Photo from "Newsweek"

Babrak Karmal: equal
rights for all Afghans

Kabul. All nationalities and tribes resident in Afghanistan are guaranteed equal rights. The goal of the April revolution and of the party and government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan is to enable the working people of this country to lead a happy life, said Babrak Karmal, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, President of the Revolutionary Council of Afghanistan, addressing elders and tribal leaders, churchmen and members of the public in Bamian province. The plans and development projects drawn up by the DRA leadership for this, the most backward region in our

Science
and technology

THE VIRTUES OF GARLIC

The uses of garlic have been confirmed yet once again. According to the British magazine "New Scientist", recent research has shown that garlic helps lower the blood pressure and the cholesterol level in the blood, prevents blood clotting and reduces fat deposits on the walls of blood vessels. Scientists say that by eating garlic one removes some of the low-density fats from the blood without reducing the level of the highly dense fats in the bloodstream. Besides, it helps ingest vitamin B which stimulates the nervous system and the coronary vessels. It also contains at least two natural antibiotics.

KEEP UP THE VITAMINS

It took American oncologists almost twenty years to establish that food with a high vitamin A content, like carrots, decreases the risk of lung cancer by 40 per cent, even among smokers. The research was carried out on a large sample of industrial workers in a Chicago suburb.

OF INTEREST

The exhibition, "Russian Ballet: History and Modernity", has opened in one of the ancient palaces in the city. Meetings, exhibitions, concerts, Soviet film shows, and athletic competitions are taking place in Genazzano, Frascati, Latina, Viterbo, Anzio and other places. Critics in Rome have praised the concerts given by the Soviet singer, Alla Pugachova, at the

FROM THE SOVIET PRESS

THE PEOPLE'S WILL CANNOT
BE IGNORED

PRAVDA carries an editorial in which it comments on remarks made by President Reagan on November 22 when he attempted to shift the blame for the arms race on the Soviet Union. The paper writes that Soviet efforts to maintain its defence potential at a due level were undertaken in response to American actions. If there had been no challenge from America, there would have been no need for the USSR to mobilize its resources and additional sums of money in the modernization of its armed forces. In the 70s, the Soviet Union only did what the United States had undertaken a decade before.

The newspaper further stresses that the American president justifies the deployment of the new MX ballistic missiles by saying that it is necessary in order to restore the military balance and to bring the American "deterrent forces". This pretext has been used more than once in the past to justify similar programmes for the building of heavy bombers and ballistic missiles. Perhaps, it was because he decided not to frighten the American public that the president refrained from mentioning that apart from the MXs, the construction is underway of Trident 2 missiles, strategic bombers, as well as long-range air, sea and land-based cruise missiles, and that it is planned to use space for military purposes. By 1990, the United States intends to increase its arsenal of strategic nuclear charges alone to 20,000.

All reliance on victory in nuclear war is adventurism. The Soviet Union does not intend to engage in a race with the United States in the creation of every new weapon system of, indeed, to copy the Americans. This, however, is not to say that this country will not have a effective response to Washington should it begin to implement its plans.

Commenting further on the question of definite measures to decrease the chances of a miscalculation which could lead to a nuclear conflict, the newspaper writes that this subject brought up by Reagan is essentially positive.

After information about extensive launches of missiles is issued, the main thing, however, is that such launches should not be undertaken for combat purposes. Even if we attack ten times as many direct telephone lines between Moscow and Washington to such hundreds of MX missiles will this really make the missiles less dangerous? Here we have a concrete illustration of how even a good idea can be made meaningless.

WHO HINDERS ASEAN'S PROGRESS

The ASEAN member-countries strive to develop regional cooperation, posing their efforts in the struggle for restructuring the entire system of international economic relations on a just democratic basis, points out L'AVANTAGE. The newspaper comments on the results of the meeting of the economic ministers of the ASEAN member-countries in Singapore.

The solution of the tasks of full-percentage economic development of the ASEAN countries is being hampered by a number of factors, the newspaper writes. The West would like to keep the status of the "free" as a source of raw materials for its monopolies and as an extensive market for their commodities. The USA, Japan, and common market countries continue to pursue a discriminatory policy with regard to the developing countries, which substantially hinders the latter's economic and social progress. Particular concern in ASEAN countries is being aroused by the predatory activities of transnational corporations, the newspaper points out.

OUI, WHAT A POINTLESS WAR!

When the Iran-Iraq conflict broke out at the beginning of 1980 two of the most influential among the developing countries participating in the active confrontation with world imperialism were hit by the struggle, writes the NEW TIMES weekly. In addition, the Iran-Iraq war has seriously weakened the common Arab front against the Camp David sell-out. Uncertainty and indecision have increased in the Arab world, with some countries siding with Iraq and the others taking the part of Iran. There has been a considerable loss of interest among the Arab countries in the Persian Gulf in matters relating to the confrontation with Israel, and some of them have said outright that the Iran-Iraq war, taking place in direct proximity to their borders, affects them to a much greater degree.

The senseless bloodshed continues, bringing untold sufferings to the peoples of these two neighbouring states. According to conservative estimates, damage to the two nations stands at no less than 100,000 million dollars, and the casualty figures run into tens of thousands in dead or wounded.

It is high time to stop seeking the solution to existing problems through war, comments the weekly. Common sense and an awareness of the interests of their own peoples should take priority over ambition and thirst for revenge.

An interesting find

Archaeologists excavating near Rome have found the skeleton of a Neanderthal man which is estimated to be 200 thousand years old. The finds at his "contemporary", a mammoth, were found next to him. It is thought that the Neanderthal man could have died fighting the pre-historic giant.

USA, 65 whales committed mass suicide when they cast themselves ashore near the town of Wallis, Mass. All attempts to save the mammals failed, and biologists are now investigating the cause of this action.

Photo AP-TASS

VIEWPOINT

Valentin KUNIN

'LINKAGE' MEANING
DRAGGING OF FEET

American Vice-President George Bush's tour of several African countries has been described by the local press as another attempt by Washington to turn the non-existing issue of the withdrawal of Cuban military contingents from Angola into a chip in the bargaining for granting independence to Namibia.

The positions of the two sides turned out to be diametrically opposed. The African states demand the immediate implementation of UN Security Council Resolution No. 435. This provides for the holding of free fair elections in Namibia under international control to be followed by the proclamation of the country's independence.

Washington, which sets the pace in the so-called contact group on Namibia (the USA, Britain, France, West Germany, Canada), has been working hard since the beginning of the year to achieve a neo-colonialist

settlement of the Namibian problem. Its goal is to bring to power in the latter country a puppet regime, to watch over the strategic and economic interests of leading Western nations and of South Africa in Namibia.

We have no colonial interests in the South African region, George Bush told Zambian leaders in Lusaka. Let us see how far this corresponds to reality.

In 1974, the UN proclaimed that Namibia's mineral wealth belonged to its people and urged Western states to end their capitalist investment in the Namibian economy. Today, however, quite the reverse is happening. There are 15 American companies operating at the present time in Namibia. They control a large part of the production of copper, nickel, zinc and lead. The Mobil Oil and Caterpillar monopolies hold dominant positions in the trade of oil and oil products in the country. The Pentagon sees the deep-water Namibian port of Walvis Bay, which is capable of receiving

warships of any class, as a potential base for the American naval forces.

It is these neo-colonialist interests of American industrial and military circles which determine Washington's policy on the Namibian issue and its rapprochement with the apartheid regime, the latter acting as the protector of American "vital interests" in the south of Africa. By providing broad economic and military assistance to Pretoria and inciting it to escalate its military provocations against "front-line states", America is turning this region into another seat of tension.

It is entirely Washington's fault that the issue of granting independence to Namibia has once again been stonewalled. For, in the face of a negative reaction from some of its partners in the "contact group", it launched the idea of the "linkage" of the issue of granting independence to Namibia to the presence in Angola of Cuban troops. It was right after the withdrawal of South Africa by American

Assistant State Secretary for African Affairs Chester Crocker (he was also on the delegation led by Bush) that Pretoria announced the appointment of a new general administrator in Namibia. According to the South African press, the latter's main task will be to prepare for and stage in the first half of next year a "general election" minus the participation of SWAPO, recognized by the UN and the OAU as the sole legitimate representative of the Namibian people.

There can be no doubt that the staging of "general elections" is but one more step to a unilateral proclamation of the pseudo-independence of Namibia.

Independent Africa's answer to the American concept of "linkage" is found in a statement made by President Daniel arap Moi, of Kenya, in which he stressed that there can be no connection whatsoever between the presence of Cuban forces in Angola and the legitimate struggle of the Namibian people for the liberation of their motherland from colonial yoke. No state in the world, he said, respecting democracy and national sovereignty, could link these two issues. Like the leaders of some other African countries visited by the American vice-president, Moi expressed a fully justified "embarrassment" over how the South African racist regime could meet with friendly understanding from Washington when in the words of G. Bush, the latter applies to the establishment of "freedom and peace" in the south of Africa.



Round the Soviet Union

RESEARCHERS FROM THE MAGADAN DEPARTMENT OF THE PACIFIC INSTITUTE FOR FISHERIES AND OCEANOGRAPHY HAVE MADE AN INVESTIGATION OF THE NORTHERN PART OF THE SEA OF OKHOTSK. The expedition examined a water area of about one hundred thousand square kilometres, using sensitive instruments. The map of fish stock distribution in the shelf-offshore zone that was compiled will allow fishermen to obtain scientifically based recommendations on fishing.

ONCE THE BYELORUSSIAN RIVER FLEET IS EQUIPPED WITH SPECIAL BARGES ITS GRAIN TRANSPORTATION BY WATER WILL INCREASE. Serial production of the barges has begun. The first 350-tonne vessel will be registered in the port of Gomel.

A NEW ROUTE IS NOW OFFERED FOR TOURISTS IN THE TAMBOV REGION, IVANOVKA, AN OLD VILLAGE IN IT, HOLDS NUMEROUS RELICS OF SERGEI RACHMANINOV'S LIFE. The composer wrote many beautiful works here that earned him world fame. A memorial museum has been opened in the two-story estate house where he used to stay for recreation.

THE 4th CONGRESS OF TRAUMATOLOGISTS AND ORTHOPEDISTS OF THE BALTIC REPUBLICS HAS CLOSED IN THE LITHUANIAN CAPITAL, VILNIUS. The physicians discussed topical problems in fighting trauma and exchanged results of their research and practice. A system of medical and psychological rehabilitation of children suffering from complex traumas, adopted at the Vilnius children's surgical centre, was of general interest to the participants.

FARMS IN THE TALDY-KURGAN PART OF THE SEMI-ARID AREA HAVE COMPLETED LAYING OUT FOUR AND A HALF THOUSAND HECTARES OF NEW GRAZING GROUNDS IN THE DESERTS OF THE SOUTHERN BALKHASH REGION. Long-term pastures of uncultivated grass and bush are also being planted in the Caspian and South Kazakhstan desert and semidesert areas.

FROM THE SOVIET PRESS

A COUNTRY THAT LACKS ECONOMIC BACKWATERS

Today we have got rid of backward regions and we have no economic periphery—instead smooth economic interaction is the main feature of our national economy, writes IZVESTIA. The economy of Kazakhstan, for example, is led by 96 industries located outside the republic, mainly in the Russian Federation. And Kazakhstan, in turn, functions as a source area for 74 industries distributed among the other constituent republics. Fourteen republics work for 93 Moldavian industries whose products are essential for 72 industries elsewhere in this country. 82 industries in Georgia work for the whole country in exchange for products of a hundred industries.

In the Soviet era we have built 1,227 new cities—this exceeds by far the urban growth rate in other countries. Between 1971-75, 88 cities were built in this country plus 63 cities in the next five years. In the 30s, the construction of Komsomolsk-on-Amur was regarded as an outstanding event, as it was the first city to be built in the taiga. Today such feats have become everyday occurrences.

SPACE PHOTOGRAPHY EFFICIENT IN GEOLOGICAL RESEARCH

Academicians Alexander Yushin writes in the GEOGRAPHY magazine about space photography helping geologists. For example, he writes just one full day was known in the north-west of the Buzhik Peninsula, experts knew what it looked like in space photographs

OUR MICROSURGEONS



Renat Akhmedov, Viktor Krylov, Nikolai Milanov and Georgi Stepanov (shown in the photo left to right) of the National Research Centre for Microsurgery of the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences were recently named among the recipients of the

USSR State Prize for their work in devising microsurgical operations involving dismembered fingers and hands.

The Centre has been in existence for about twenty years. During this time its surgeons have performed over 600 opera-

tions to restore fingers and hands lost in accidents and too transplants to replace thumbs. The missing limb has to be sewn back on within five to six hours after the accident or within 24 hours if it was immediately refrigerated.

In any case there is limited time in which much has to be done: the dismembered limb, not rid of bones joined to bones, tendons, muscles, vessels and nerves sewn up—each to its own extremity.

To improve his vision of the minute details of the operating field and of the tools he uses, the surgeon resorts to a microscope.

The staff of the Centre make their rather unique experience in this area known to colleagues and other clinics via special publications, lectures and display operations.

As a result, in addition to the two Moscow microsurgery departments, there are analogous departments in Leningrad, Kiev, Tbilisi, Yerevan, Tashkent, Saratov, Kharkov, and Dnepropetrovsk. Similar work is being done in the GDR, Czechoslovakia, Britain, France, Italy, West Germany and the USA.

DAGHESTAN'S VINEYARDS

Arid deserts amidst the steep slopes along the Daghestan coast of the Caspian, are being turned into fertile oases. A further 350 hectares have been reclaimed from marshland and salt pans.

The land, which will be turned over to vines will never lack water even in the driest of years. The water will be brought here along the October Revolution Canal, which was built sixty years ago to ensure rich crops.

The reclamation of the semi-desert Caspian-side lands is one of the main ways of expanding viticulture in the area. A short while ago, vines were planted over 300 hectares of irrigated land.

Viticulture is the leading branch of agriculture in the Daghestan autonomous republic. This year, vineyards will be established over an area of eight thousand hectares.

Gas pipeline under construction

The builders of the Tashkent-Syrdarya river gas pipeline have completed the construction of the pile section of the line across the Kirov Canal ahead of schedule. The canal is one of the major water arteries in Uzbekistan. This will make it possible to weld and lay 80 kilometres

of the gas pipeline in trenches before the year is out.

The new pipeline will bring thousands of millions of tonnes of gas from the Karashinskaya gas field to the industries of the Uzbek capital and its region. The pipeline is due to go into operation at the end of next year.

Power bridges for Kolyma and Chukotka

A power bridge connecting the Arkhangel power station to the miners' town of Ust-Kharkhan has been put into operation.

The new high-voltage transmission line is the first leg of the power bridge at present under construction which when completed will run for about three hundred kilometres linking Kolyma to the Chukotka

AN AUTOMOBILE FOR COUNTRY ROADS

The UAZ-469 all-terrain vehicles have become a reliable means of transportation in areas with no roads in the Far North and in the Central Asian deserts, in the taiga, and in the mountains. The main assembly line of the Volga Automobile Works in Ulyanovsk, named after Lenin, put out the vehicle whose serial number is 500,000.

The UAZ cars have earned a

FISH PROCESSING COMPLEX FOR JUMALA

The fish processing complex which has just been built in Jumala will in time become one of the major producers of fish in Latvia, a Soviet Baltic republic.

Various varieties of tinned fish, the factory's first products, were recently put on the market. Nature conservation experts were consulted in the building of the complex which is situated in a popular resort. They made sure that the complex with stands on the picturesque Lielupe estuary would not harm the local environment. It is separated from the rest by a pine grove and has first-class purification facilities and very efficient mechanized and automated processes.

Latvia is boasting its production of foodstuffs which is in demand with the people. Work is nearing completion on a processing complex in the town of Salacgriva. A fish processing combine is being built in the republic's capital, Riga, not far from the sea fishing port. In the current five-year plan period (1981-85) work will start on a cannery in Ventspils

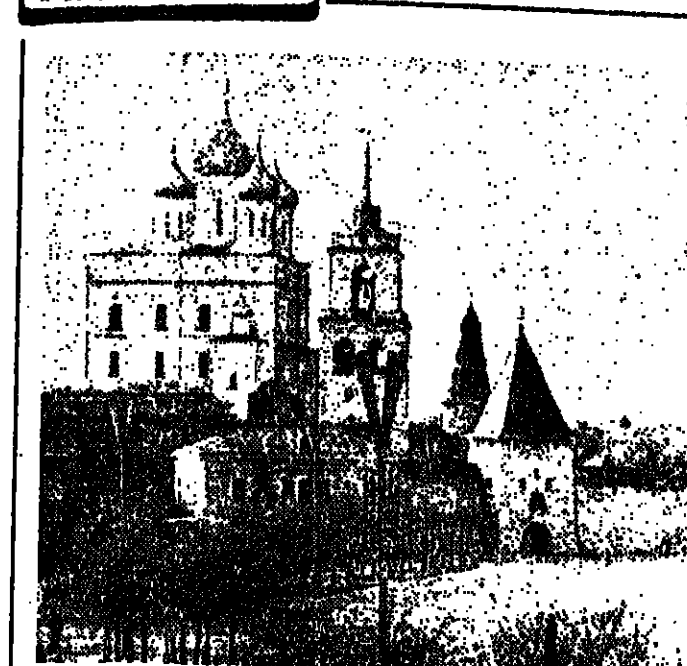
District of Yakutia. More than one thousand kilometres of high-voltage power transmission lines have been built in Kolyma and Chukotka in North-Eastern Siberia over the past few years. They carry power from the Kolyma hydro-power station to the gold-rich ore mines, ore-enrichment complexes and state farms of the northern land.

good reputation thanks to their durability and low-maintenance. This vehicle is used to transport goods and passengers, to drill holes and dig and carry cargo, to load airplanes and portable cinema projectors. The UAZ automobiles have become reliable transportation for firemen and physicians—just examples of the over one hundred modifications of the UAZ which is most helpful on country roads.

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Places to visit



MEDIEVAL PSKOV

Some buildings in medieval Pskov may have been equipped with "wireless telephones". Historians believe that the mysterious narrow ducts in the walls

were used for some kind of a communications system. Pskov is one of the oldest cities in this country. For a number of centuries it was a fortress on the north western borders of the Russian land. It survived numerous foreign invasions and more than once succeeded in repelling the enemy. It is first mentioned in chronicles in 903.

Within the comparatively small territory of the city there are about one hundred old monuments—fortress walls and towers, small whitewashed churches with tall belltowers, and mansions of high-ranking boyars. The Trinity Cathedral, built in 1600, together with the surrounding Kremlin, are among the most important examples of medieval Russian architecture. The main Kremlin walls date from the 14th century. The cathedral rests on powerful buttresses. Its lofty domes soar high into the sky and can be seen from a distance of 40 kilometres on a clear day. The heavy bell-tower stands beside it.

The cathedral was the focal point of all life in old Pskov. The вече held noisy meetings at its walls, while the State Council had its sessions inside. Valuable documents were also kept within the cathedral.

The two swords which hung in the cathedral personified the independence and valor of the medieval republic of Pskov. One was inscribed with the following inscription: "I will not surrender my honour to anyone!"

ophthalmologists at the Republican Centre of Microsurgery are searching for just such a code. They have started creating a bank of colour slides showing the tissues of the eyes of people suffering from heart ailments, and vascular and gastric disorders.

The iris acts as a kind of screen on which nature accumulates the characteristics of the internal human organs. Each organ, whether it be the lungs, the kidneys, the liver or the heart, has its own "zone of representation" on the pigment ring around the pupil. Bright and clear colours are a sign of excellent health. Fading, colour tones or dots on the iris are an indication of an undesirable process in the organism.

One has to know more though than the topography of such signs and their correspondence to certain organs. We have to study how the shape, colour and size of the dots in various bands. It will allow the doctor not only to determine the ailment, but also the stage at which it has reached whether it is incipient, chronic or has already started up.

Latvian physicians are of the opinion that triadagnoscopy complementing other methods may help considerably to speed up finding the answer to a very important question: what is the cause of a patient's ailment? The method requires no sophisticated equipment, and is also convenient for mass preventive checkups. Indeed triadagnoscopy holds out enticing prospects of an entirely new method of treatment—by influencing the dots on the iris it should be possible to help the organism mobilize all its defensive capabilities.

DIAGNOSIS AT A GLANCE

The saying that the eyes are the mirror of the soul is only partially true. They are also an "open book" of our state of health, though one has to know the code to read it. Latvian

Cherries from Krasnodar for the Danes

An unusual parcel has been dispatched from the Krasnodar Ploshchinskoye farm to a firm in Denmark.

It contains 50 kilograms of mazzard cherry and cherry adana to be planted in Danish nurseries. With their help Danish selectioners hope to obtain new varieties of stone fruit crops.

OF INTEREST

Orlando—the cat

A little boy was playing with a big marmalade cat near his home which stands on the outskirts of Tampere, a Black Sea town, not far from a forest when suddenly the end of the twig he was holding caught accidentally in a hole in the foundation. A snake darted unexpectedly out of it and it looked at one moment as if the boy was going to be bitten in the face. But before this could happen, the tom hit it with his paw, and the snake fell to the ground.

Planning it to the earth, the tom prevented it from wriggling back under the house. It is likely that the cat was an experienced snake-hunter. Most probably it was reacting to the snake's unexpected movement. However that may be, the cat protected the boy from being bitten.

THE SUN AS AN ALLY

Portable solar energy evaporators are now operating in the Severny Baidar fields, in the Karakum Desert. Each of them produces as much as five cubic metres of drinking water a day.

In sunny weather, the unit operates on solar energy and on exhaust heat from the diesel and gas turbine installations on cloudy days. The evaporators

are particularly economical to operate in distant areas.

Increasing use is being made of solar energy in the Turkmen economy, and the republic manufactures thousands of sun-powered devices and units, for instance evaporators, hot houses, installations for growing cholelites, etc.



The artist, Nikolai Pankov, is known as the bard of his Byelorussian Polotsk. Pankov's artistic figures and poems show scenes from everyday life and are done in national style. They have been displayed in Czechoslovakia, Japan and Canada. In the photo the artist with one of his paintings.

VIEWPOINT

THE SOVIET ECONOMY IN 1983

Konstantin RAZIN

The Soviet economic system continues its dynamic development. By amalgamating the economies of all the constituent republics, territories and regions, and all the branches and spheres of economic activity into a single complex, it seeks to attain its major aim of achieving consistent improvements in living standards in this country.

This is the conclusion to be derived from an analysis of the State Plan for the Economic Development of the USSR and from State Budget figures for 1983 adopted at the session of the USSR Supreme Soviet which has just come to an end.

The main index summing up the economic performance by any country is the national income which in the USSR this year will stand at 460 thousand million roubles, having increased by eight thousand million roubles as compared with last year. Yet, in a socialist society growth in the national income testifies not only to the development of the country's economy, but also to an increase in the well-being of the people. 80 per cent of the national income is spent to this end.

Large sums of money are earmarked for the development of the agroindustrial complex, in which capital investment amounts to 47 thousand million roubles. We continue to equip agriculture with up-to-date implements.

The Food Programme has been devised in order to meet the rising demand for foodstuffs arising from the nation's improved dietary standards.

One of the most characteristic features of next year's budget is the increase in the production of consumer goods which is to go up by 3.5 per cent.

Increases in both the means of production and consumer goods industries will be attained via relatively small increases in material expenditure and labour resources. Three-quarters of the increase in output will be achieved through greater productivity. The increase in the volume of industrial production for 1983 is planned at 3.2 per cent.

Progress in science and technology and the intensive development of industry are major levers in the progress of the Soviet economy today. That is why, hand in hand with the building of major new industrial enterprises, factory sections, and the establishment of new industries the Soviet state carries out large-scale modernization and reconstruction of many existing factories and mines.

Finally pursuing its resolute struggle for the cessation of the arms race, and continuing its policies of military and political détente, the Soviet state is not spending, nor will it spend a single rouble more on armaments than what is absolutely necessary to ensure the security of the Soviet people and of their friends and allies.

In 1983, expenditure on defence will stand at 17.05 thousand million roubles, or only 4.8 per cent of the budget. This is 0.7 per cent less than this year's budget allocations on defence.

In its pursuit of peace and mutually advantageous economic cooperation, this country goes all it can to develop foreign trade. Next year, trade with the socialist countries is to increase by 7.7 per cent. It is also worth noting that the volume of trade with capitalist countries in 1983 is planned at higher than in 1982, when it was enveloped in the deep yearning.

Science and technology

SPACE SEEDS

BROUGHT BACK TO EARTH

Until recently all attempts to grow seeds on space stations have failed. Once Arabidopsis thaliana seeds did bloom in space and produce a pod, though seeds were not forthcoming. Arabidopsis has been chosen for experiments in space because it has a short life cycle of about thirty days.

However, one of the successes of Anatoly Bonch-Bruyevich and Vladimir Lebedev, recorded last day in space is that seeds have now been grown and the pods, between two and seven millimetres long, have been brought back to earth. The space seeds appear to have remained unchanged both in size and colour (dark green). They means that in principle it should be possible to reproduce the complete cycle of plant growth in outer space. As compared with previous experiments, when the seeds failed to yield seed, this time proper growing conditions were created. Fighting for instance, being in a microgravity environment, the seeds did not rot, but grew up as a longer, thicker pod.

A DRILL FOR PERMAFROST

A gas drill designed jointly by the Khar'kov Avtomaticheskoye Mashinostroyeniye Institute and some Leningrad enterprises will be used to drill into the permafrost in the north. It is not only a gas drill, but also a pump. It takes rock samples at any elevation.

Let's be clear: gas is not used by the device itself as a source of energy, and not as a means of drilling. The gas is used as a means of lifting rock samples at any elevation.

The drill is mounted on a powerful tractor with controls inside the cabin. One such device performs the job of a whole team of drillers.

The drill has been successfully tested in Yakutia where experts have decided it can be used to advantage in permafrost for pile construction, the construction of main pipelines and power transmission lines.

RARE MANUSCRIPTS FOUND

More than 50 manuscripts were added recently to the archive of ancient documents at the Institute of Russian Literature of the USSR Academy of Sciences.

In their search for rare books, scholars from Leningrad toured a number of settlements and villages in Latvia, and in the Arkhangelsk and Pskov regions.

Of particular interest are the "Rhetoric" books they found—unique monuments of local literature. They are beautifully designed with arabesque headpieces, and liturgical illuminated letters.

Among the objects retrieved are "The Rhetoric" by Stephan Vavrovsky, a major figure of Russian culture who lived at the turn of the 12th century and "The Catechism" of Iakob. Other works of interest include a "Synonymy" of abundance, collection of words and sayings of literary and historical value, and a "Synonymy" of words for daily use, now being studied by specialists in ancient Russian language.

